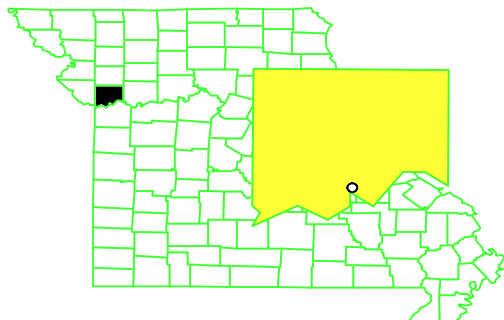


**LEE CHEMICAL**  
**MISSOURI**  
**EPA ID# MOD980853519**

**EPA Region 7**  
**City: 3 miles southeast of Liberty**  
**County: Clay County**  
**Other Names: Liberty Public**  
**Water Supply**



## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

The 1-acre Lee Chemical site was used for packaging a variety of chemicals from 1966 until 1974, when Lee Chemical abandoned the facility. City officials found several hundred drums of chemicals on site in 1976, most of which were removed by the City in 1977. The City of Liberty, which owns the property, has removed the building and visible contamination from the site. Soil sample analyses from the site indicate that trichloroethylene (TCE) is still present. During a drinking water study in 1980, the EPA sampled the city's water wells and found TCE. Since then, the most contaminated wells have not been used for drinking water. The water from the remaining wells no longer contains detectable levels of TCE. There are approximately 24,000 people living within a 3-mile radius of the site. The nearest residence is located approximately 1/4 mile from the site. The City's drinking water supply wells are located 1/4 mile away from the site. There are several irrigation wells situated near the site. Industrial and commercial facilities near the site use groundwater for cooling or process water.

### **Site Responsibility:**

The site is being addressed through Federal, State, and City actions.

### **NPL LISTING HISTORY**

**Proposed Date:** 10/15/84

**Final Date:** 06/10/86

**Deleted Date:**

## **THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS**

**Description:** The groundwater, surface water, and soil are contaminated with TCE. Contaminated groundwater, surface water, and soil could adversely affect the health of individuals through direct contact or ingestion. In addition, bioaccumulation of contaminants in fish, water fowl, livestock, and commercial agricultural products may be another exposure pathway. The Town Branch of the Shoal Creek is located approximately 2,000 feet downslope from the site and receives contaminated water discharged from one city well and an on-site extraction well. The creek empties into the Missouri River about 1 mile downstream.

## CLEANUP APPROACH

### Response Action Status

**Immediate Actions:** The City of Liberty removed several hundred barrels of chemicals and has cleared the land surrounding the old treatment plant left by Lee Chemical. In 1983, a contractor working for the City demolished the plant, cleared the site, and disposed of the waste material. The City has monitored the well water and drinking water and has managed the use of supply wells to eliminate TCE in the drinking water. The City installed two new supply wells in 1982.

**Entire Site:** The City completed a study of the extent and nature of the contamination in 1990. Following a public comment period, the EPA selected a remedy, which includes installation of a more efficient purge well on site and continuation of the interim action requiring discharge of extracted groundwater to a nearby creek. In-place aqueous soil flushing is being used through three infiltration fields on site. Construction was completed in early 1994 and the system is in full operation.

### Description:

**Site Facts:** The State of Missouri and the City of Liberty signed a Consent Order in March 1992. Under the terms of the order, the City is responsible for the design and implementation of cleanup activities under State supervision.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS



Construction was completed at the site in early 1994. Removing contaminated barrels from the site and monitoring well water have reduced the potential for exposure to hazardous substances at the Lee Chemical site while soil flushing activities are being completed. A five-year review was completed in the summer of 1999. The review show that progress is being made towards the cleanup goals. Cleanup goals have not been achieved to date, but they are anticipated prior to the next five year review.

## SITE REPOSITORY



Liberty Public Library, 1000 S. Kent,  
Liberty, MO 64048

Superfund Records Center  
901 N. 5th St.  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
Mail Stop SUPR  
(913)551-4038

## REGIONAL CONTACTS

**SITE MANAGER:**

Steve Kinser

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

kinser.steven@epa.gov  
(913) 551-7728

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Hattie Thomas

**COORDINATOR:**

**PHONE NUMBER:**

(913) 551-7762

**PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER:**

City Hall Liberty Missouri

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

**STATE CONTACT:**

Robert Hinkson, MDNR

**PHONE NUMBER:**

(573) 751-8629

## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

**STATE:**

**PACIFIC ISLAND(S):**

071K

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:**

06

**EPA ORGANIZATION:**

SFD-M0KS/SUPR

## MODIFICATIONS